

# The Point

The Fitchburg State College Newspaper

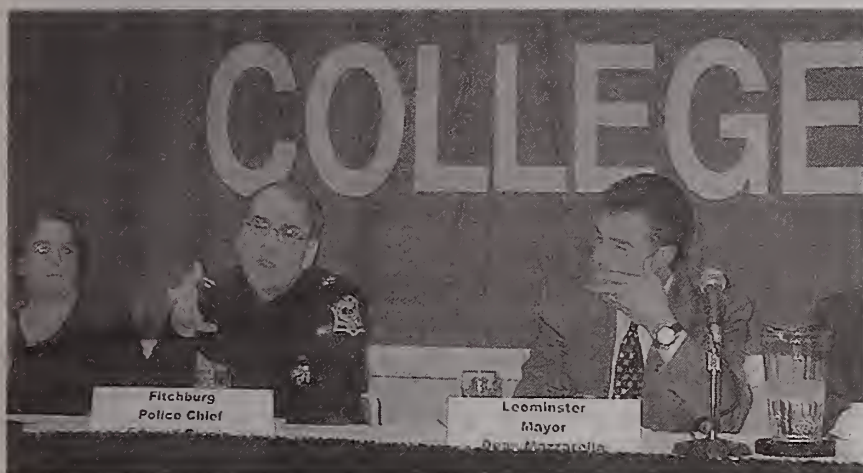
Issue #7

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Week of April 17th

## 'Engagements': FSC and the community



By Amy S. Bobrowski

On Thurs., Apr. 3, FSC students met with officials of the Fitchburg and Leominster communities during "A Day of Civic Engagement." According to Bridget Botelho, of the "Sentinel and Enterprise," a loud and clear message was delivered from both students and community officials, "You scratch our back, we'll scratch yours'."

The forum, dedicated to issues facing the community was sponsored by FSC and National Campus Compact and featured Interim President Michael Rivard as its moderator. The forum's panel included Fitchburg Mayor Dan Mylott, Leominster Mayor Dean Mazzarella, Fitchburg Police Chief Edward Cronin, FSC professor and Fitchburg Historical Society President Helen Obermeyer-Simmons, Student Trustee Keyes, and Ward 5 Councilman Stephen Hay.

"Fitchburg has taken a lot of abuse over the years," said Chief Cronin, "and we've got to define the problem before we get started fixing it." Students had no difficulty in defining their problems with the community. Issues they raised included rundown and abandoned

buildings and houses in the area, as well as crime and threats made to their safety.

Cronin asked students if they felt safe walking in the town. A short silence fell over a crowd in the Ellis White Lecture Halls, but students quickly chimed in with very heated answers of "no."

Cronin stressed the importance of the students' part in tackling the issue. "You need to be a part of the solution, too," he said. "I don't want the police department to seem like a doctor for crime. We just can't write a prescription and say I'll take care of it."

Town officials acknowledge that although the relationship between the college and the community has moved beyond the "college versus community" attitude of past years, there is still a long way to go. Mayor Mylott asked both the communities and colleges to think of "What can we do better?"

His answer focused on increased communication. "If we don't understand our neighbors, we're going to have a difficult time creating a livable community," said Mylott.

While community officials stressed the importance of volun-

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## Go FISH!

By: Robin L. Kanter

On April 1, 2003, Fitchburg State College held their annual Leadership Conference. This was the sixth year that this conference was held. With over a 100 people attending, students, faculty, and staff were anxious to hear from guest speaker Harry Paul, who is the co-author of the book FISH!. The theme for this year's conference was based around this book. Such workshops as Swimming Upstream, Turn It Around: From Tuna Fish to Caviar, Applying Customer Service In Your Life, and The Fish Philosophy were just a couple of the workshops that were held. There were also many faculty and students running different workshops. Appearances were made by Robert Hynes, Director of Counseling Services, John Chetro-Szivos, Media-Communication professor, Amy Bobrowski, Editor-In-Chief of The Point, and Adam Keyes, student trustee of the Student Government Association.

Tullio Nieman, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, opened the conference by warming up the crowd. With a couple of remarks to get things up and running Tullio presented the next speaker. Tullio stated that "No one better defense leadership than intern president Michael Rivard." Michael Rivard gave a quick speech to motivate the crowd and next up was the mayor of Fitchburg, Dan Mylott. With the clock ticking, the speeches were not long, and the workshops began. The students and faculty split into their workshops and were ready to learn everything they could.

Swimming Upstream presented by Dr. Robert Hynes and Tara Piccini, from the Office of Student Affairs. In this workshop, they talked about the concerns and the dangers of consuming alcohol. A hand-

al character Lisa, and took you through her life. With a salary of only roughly \$31,000 dollars, it is no wonder Lisa was in debt by the time she was done with rent, utilities, a car, food, and other knick-knacks. "Whether you a freshman or a graduate you are going to be confronted by credit card debt", Castilli-Hier expressed. Watch where you spend your money and it is never too early to start up a bank account for the future.

Pete Murray, Dr. Jeff Godin, and Benjamin Reed taught what Applying customer service in your life can do for you. These presenters were eloquently spoken and were very enthusiastic in their presentation. One of the most important questions

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out of the Power Point presentation was handed out so it was easy to follow along with the slides. The Campus Living staff was present to perform a reenactment of a party and what would happen, what to do, and who to call. Even a member from the Rescue Squad was there to make the scene more realistic. The most interesting part of this workshop was how the presenters compared the country's statistics to Fitchburg State College. At the beginning of the workshop, a small survey was given out and then collected with new data. The questions ranged from Have you ever been embarrassed by someone who was intoxicated? and do you know someone who drinks everyday? When they presented these questions for the country, they then compared them to the people taking this workshop. This workshop was quite organized and provided enough time for questions and comments at the end. Before we knew it, we were off to the next workshop.

Immerse yourself in another culture was another interesting workshop. The presenters Dr. Clare O'Brien and Benjamin Reed, created their own "culture" and had certain foods and rules. When entering Alumni room B make sure to take your shoes off because they were not allowed. It gave the students a chance to learn different types of greeting and to experience the taste of water chestnuts. This was an experience in itself. Having trouble keeping your debit down? Mariann Castilli-Hier had just the solution for you with her workshop on Financial Management and Credit Card Debt. She expressed how fast money could fly from your pocket on to tedious things. We all have experienced this one way or another. She took a fiction-

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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

4/9/03 9:47 a.m.

I don't even know what to say or think. I'm sitting here on this cold Wednesday April morning watching Iraqis put a noose on and take an ax to the statue of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad. I'm awed, I'm scared, I'm amazed, and I'm confused.

For the past two to three weeks, since the "war" started, CNN has broadcasted 24-hour war coverage. Up until now, I've tried to limit my viewing time of the conflict. Now I'm glued to the television, unable to move or get ready for class. What is going on here? I can't even begin to describe, let alone organize all the thoughts going on in my head.

Three Iraqi men have just climbed on top of the pedestal of the almost five-story figure. Years from now, this will be a textbook image for this war. It will become one of the most memorable moments of their rebirth as a nation. If there is a rebirth. I believe it is still too soon to tell what will become of this conflict.

Last week I sat down to dinner with college officials and Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams. Although this inspirational woman does not agree with the war against Iraq, she said something that fits this ground-breaking moment. "Words are cheap. The only thing that really matters are the actions to create the world you want to live in."

These people, these Iraqis, are making an attempt to change their world. The tanks are driving down the streets. Instead of running for cover, citizens are greeting the soldiers with smiles and yellow flowers.

I have often found myself battling over my opinions of this war. I make it clear that I in no way favor the violence, the brutality and some of the fundamentals of war. Are we fighting against Iraq as a country, or are we just after Saddam?

Likewise, what happened to our nation's war on terrorism? I don't remember the last time I heard the name Osama bin Laden mentioned in the news. It's almost like that since we can't find him, we've given up on our pledge to wage war against terrorism and settled for the next best thing, the war on Iraq.

In the past ten minutes, since I've started typing this, I've been glancing back and forth at the TV. A portrait of Saddam has been torn down and a tank has just entered the main square to aid in the quest of tearing down the statue. This is a pivotal moment in the war; however, the war won't just be over when the statue comes down. Will it even be considered close to over when Saddam is killed?

What happens next? At what point do we say, "This is over?" How much Iraqi TV can we all take? I can't even find local weather on television any more. Matt Lauer goes to Al Roker so he can tell us the weather in Iraq. What about what's going on in our neck of the woods?

A U.S. Marine put American flag over the head on the Saddam statue. But this war is not about American flags or American victory; it's about Iraqi sovereignty. The American flag is soon replaced with a pre-Gulf War Iraqi flag.

If this article reads like a jumble of mixed emotions, then you have understood my feelings of this war. I support the troops, I support freedom; it's just that I'm having trouble with all the images in front of my eyes and organizing them in my mind.

Sincerely,  
Amy S. Bobrowski  
Editor-in-Chief

## Catch this 'Vision'

Fitchburg, MA- "Visions '03," a display of works by Communications Media students at FSC, will be on view April 23 through June 1 in the FSC Campus Center Art Gallery. An opening reception is scheduled for April 23 at 5:30 p.m. in the Hammond Art Gallery. Juried student work in photography, graphic design, interactive media, and technical communications will be on display. Film and video selections will be screened on April 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Weston Auditorium.

Fitchburg State's Communications Media Department has come to be known as one of the finest in the Northeast. Students have won a number of regional and national awards, and graduates of the program hold high-level positions from New York to Hollywood.

The Art Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and Sunday, noon to 8 p.m. Admission is free and the community is invited to attend.

### *The Point*

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The Point considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length.

All articles must be typed or legibly handwritten and include a name and a phone number, in case of questions.

Announcements should be short, including

dates, places, times, and a contact person.

The content of any article labeled Opinion, does not necessarily represent the views of The Point, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

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# A picture worth a thousand words

By Stephanie Renaud

On March 28, the Leaders in the Humanities II class went to the Matisse Picasso Exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art in Queens, New York. The exhibit, which opened on February 13 focuses on the "visual relationship" between the works of Matisse and Picasso. Throughout their lives, these two men were both friends and rivals. Many of their works were produced only after one of the men would view the other's painting. The rivalry went back and forth for many years. This exhibit illustrated this rivalry very well.

As a student studying these two men and their art, I found the exhibit exciting as well as educational. The works of these men were amazing to see in person. Being able to see all the paintings up close and in person instead of in a book really added to the feeling of the art. You could see all the colors and paint strokes better than in a book and with that came a new appreciation of their art for me. Some of the works are harder to do than you may think. I knew very little of their rivalry until I saw this

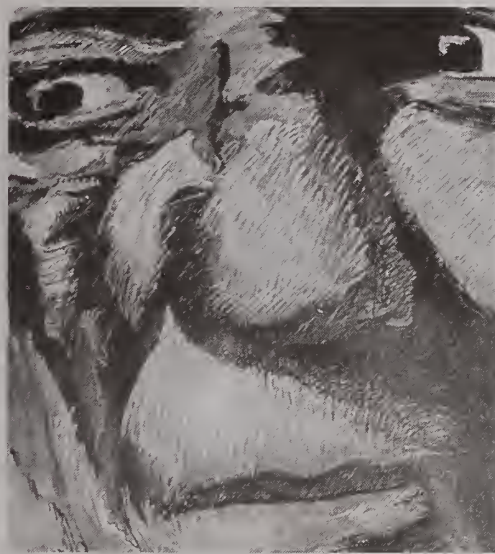


exhibit. The way the exhibit revealed their rivalry was excellent. A painting of one man was shown along side the painting that was created in response from the other painter. The work of Picasso and Matisse is very interesting to say the least. If you get a chance to go to this exhibit, which runs until May 19 or any other exhibit featuring Matisse and Picasso please take advantage of this unforgettable experience.

## FSC Civic Engagment

Continued from page 1

teerism in the community, Student Trustee Adam Keyes clued in town leaders of the real issues on students' minds. "From a student perspective, we're looking for what we don't feel exists. When we have things [events] we open to the community, we feel we don't get great attendance. We don't know if that's our lack of communication or communities lack of interest," said Keyes.

And this one comment opened the door students' needed to express their concerns over the communities' lack of interest to the leading consumers of the area. "If we're the customers to FSC, what is that the towns of Fitchburg and Leominster can do to us to make us buy into you, instead of just getting us to volunteer for you?" asked FSC student Andrew Chamberlain.

"If we're the biggest consumer, advertisers should target us instead of the student going and finding the advertisement," said Keyes in response to officials' encouragement of going out and getting more involved. Councilman Hay acknowledged Keyes's concern, "We are very aware that the college is our biggest consumer. We are trying to get shops downtown that cater to students." Students then offered suggestions as to what they would like to see in the community. Pool halls, movie theaters, art shops and coffee houses were among the answers.

FSC's nickname as the "suitcase school," was also heard throughout the forum. FSC student, Lisa Clark suggested was the college could discard that motto. "I would like to see a blurr between the barrier of going to school here and making it our home. One way to do that is increased awareness of what the city has to offer us," said Clark.

Many students agree with the sentiments of Clark, but community officials wanted students to see the whole picture. "We have to stop looking at the situation as 'what's in it for us?' and start working together," said Mayor Mylott.

Over the course of 90 minutes, many issues were addressed, however all involved felt both the college and community would benefit from similar sessions held throughout the semester. Rivard vowed that he would schedule another meeting before the end of the semester in order to foster productive communication and relationships between the college and community.

### TOUR GROUP

BY KATE O'NEIL





# Nobel Prize winner Jody Williams visits FSC

By Kristine McCaffrey

Do you believe that one person can make a difference in this world? If you do not, then you have probably never heard Nobel Prize winning Laureate, Jody Williams, speak. Williams lectured here at FSC on April 3. Williams, who is one of only ten women to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize, was awarded it in 1997 for a seminal study she co-wrote based on her research of land mines.

The International Campaign to Ban Landmines started with one person, Williams. Williams served as chief spokesperson for this campaign and watched it grow from herself to 1,400 non-governmental organizations and with participation and support from 90 countries. "We have 191 nations left," said Williams, "we want them all." Williams explained that landmines, used during wartime, can continue to kill for generations long after the war is over. Landmines do not recognize peace and could potentially kill our great- great grandchildren's generation. In 1997 countries negotiated a treaty to ban landmines which has been made law. The process of doing so took five years and it was the first time a conventional weapon used by every country

was taken away from the military. Landmines had been a weapon used for over 100 years. Williams and her campaign received the Nobel Peace Prize for as she says "for making a dream become reality and for their communication in addressing humanitarian process."

Williams started her lecture by explaining that although she became a Laureate, she changed her major several times in college, took jobs that had nothing to do with her degree and never thought she would leave her home state of Vermont. "You don't have to know what you are going to do with the rest of your life [when in college] and your first job is not your last," she explained to her attentive audience who might have been questioning what their future might hold.

Williams explained that she got to where is in her life because of her idea that "words and actions must coincide...words are cheap; actions matter." Williams began to question her government during the Vietnam War. Williams also has questions of the government now with the war on Iraq. Williams believes in protesting and that that the Bush Administration should have waited for sanction from the United Nations before going to war. Williams went



on to explain that during the Clinton impeachment, which would have only affected one man, there was much debate and money spent by Congress.

"Where is the debate from Congress about war?" asks Williams. Williams criticized the media for not publicizing protests, and focusing on how only America is feeling about the war. "CNN is a cheerleader for this war." Williams added that protests are hidden in the B section of the Washington Post when it should be front page news. "There used to be 50 networks and one time, and now there are only 5. All of them condone the war."

Williams herself was arrested just a couple of weeks ago for being 1 of 68 people who held a press conference

and "used their right to assembly to stand in reflection in front of the White House." She was arrested along with three Bishops and a fellow Laureate and held in custody for five hours. Williams told her audience of her confusion of how the US is imposing democracy on Iraq, yet Americans are arrested for speaking demonstrating their beliefs. "Other countries think we as Americans are brain-washed. My question is; are we?"

Williams describes herself as a voice of dissent and believes the day we went to war with Iraq without the United Nations consent was "a dark day in American history." Williams says that she does indeed love her country and that "I support our troops fighting and hope their mission is done swiftly...I just cannot be a mindless citizen. We are creating a disservice if we accept a policy we don't believe is correct." Williams explained that she believes in her country and "the values taught to me in grade school 40 years ago."

Williams ended her talk with a question and answer session with her audience members. The crowd respected and supported her views and thoughts about landmines and the war on Iraq and responded to her lecture by giving her a standing ovation.

## Star Search information found here....

By Eileen Hamm

It's hard to believe, but the competition begins on Tuesday, April 22 and runs for three consecutive evenings. The deadline for signups has been extended until April 18th. These signups are taking place at the Information Booth in the Hammond Building. The competition is open to EVERYONE on campus - faculty, staff, and students. This is your chance to not only shine, but have a lot of fun in the process!

If you can sing, dance, act, juggle, do gymnastics, do stand-up comedy, or if have some other unique talent, sign up to participate in the competition which will feature an award of monetary prizes to first, second, and third place winners. Eileen Hamm has arranged to have two judges who are from local talent agencies in Boston and Worcester. These agencies are always looking for talent and offer numerous career opportunities including roles in commercials, acting jobs, modeling jobs, dancing, and voice-overs. This could be your chance to be discovered. You never know.

This fun competition will take place over a three-night period. On

Tuesday and Wednesday evening, five competitors will be chosen (if you don't get chosen on Tuesday, come back again and try on Wednesday). These ten finalists will compete on Thursday evening for the top three positions.

There is no admission fee for competitors. Tickets for this three-day event are as follows:

|                 |                         |                        |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| STUDENTS:       | One (1) or Two evenings | - \$5.00 each evening. |
|                 | All Three Evenings:     | - \$10.00              |
| SENIOR CITIZENS | Same as Students        |                        |
| GENERAL PUBLIC: | One (1) or Two evenings | - \$7.00 each evening. |
|                 | All Three Evenings:     | - \$15.00              |

The show will be directed by Eileen Hamm. For more information or for any questions regarding this event, please contact Eileen by leaving a message on extension 6367. She will return your call as soon as possible.



# Students Get Hooked at Leadership Conference

Continued from page 1

that they asked the group who attended was, "How do you want people to view you?" Too often we take for granted what we say when we are around other people. This question brought on higher thinking and different views on life. Murray spoke about developing a mission statement and what you should include in your personal goals of life. "Picture your funeral. What do you want people to say about you?". After a few minutes of thinking, it occurred that most people want someone to say that they "influenced my life in one way or another", "she was a great educator", and "he was one of the nicest people I knew". These were just a couple of thoughts. As Murray put it, "It is time to start thinking outside the box!" Point well taken.

People trickled in before guest speaker Harry Paul, offered his presentation. The workshops were so intriguing, that some people did not want to leave but it was well worth after Harry Paul opened his speech. Harry Paul is known for co writing the book Fish!. He is currently working on his next book, How to fit a giraffe in your refrigerator. He started off his speech with the famous words, "I am a nice guy". His enthusiasm was well represented. He discussed his objectives about life and the career profession. You should find ways to

have fun, build performance values, create stories so that you are known, and think of ideas you can use right away.

He used the example of doing household chores. Now no one likes to do these tedious tasks, but what if you found a way to make it fun. At this point, he had the whole audience get up. "Walk around the room and greet as many people as you can, but when you greet them act like you want to be somewhere else." The audience turned into this group of despondent people, whom no one wanted to be around. Paul then changed the assignment to now do this and greet each person as if he/she is the most important person in the room. Well this crowd of disgruntled people changed their attitudes and it was a completely new picture. There were hugs, shout outs, and even firm and caring hand shakes. When the spectators sat back down he asked what the difference between the two activities was. Those who volunteered their answers received the famous "flying fish". More and more people were dynamically answering questions in hopes that a fish was flying their way. "Better, faster, and different." This was the way we need to move toward our future goals and to the approach of our lives.

When you walked into work, what is your typical attitude? Why am I here again,



Harry Paul hooked students with his one-liners and sinkers!

or when do I get to leave? As Paul said, *"one day we will come to a world where the employee walks into work and says, TGIM! Thank God It's Monday!"* Hopefully, that day is right around the corner. The hour of his presentation flew and before everyone knew it, it was time to go to dinner.

Everyone preceded downstairs to get some of that famous Chartwells Catering Service. There was the vegetarian option and for those meat loves Shrimp and Chicken. The five-course meal was delectable and everyone was pleased with his or her meal. The food was so good, that the desert bar was a never-ending line. Tullio opened the Closing Ceremony by thanking those who helped make this possible. Ron

Bowers, Lisa Dubose, and Christina Mosca, were just a couple of people he thanks. Harry Paul concluded the conference with one last speech. It was a pleasure getting the chance to hear his presentation and many people left with a new perspective in life. This was a day many of us will never forget.

Mark the date now! Next year's Leadership Conference will be March 30, 2004, with guest speaker Sarah Weddington. Ms. Weddington successfully argued the landmark Supreme Court Case: *Roe v. Wade*. The title for the conference is *...And Justice for All*. We hope to see everyone there again and everyone who missed out!

## A magical experience at McKay

By Christopher Dodge

Do you believe in magic? Fourth graders from McKay Campus School and a Lunenburg elementary school were asked the same question this week, and the answer was a resounding "yes!" These students took place in the learning centers created this semester by the students of Dr. Diana Suskind's Creative Arts class. All the students who came and participated left believing in magic and the joy it can bring to learning.

Students in the Creative Arts class this spring have spent many hours putting together the learning centers for the fourth graders who participated. Learning centers are particular areas of a room dedicated to learning activities and hands-on materials for the students to interact with and enjoy. This semester the arts class has decided to choose "magic" as a theme. All the centers pertain to magic, and they all are subject based in content of activities.

The "Enchantment Around the World" center in full of wonderful activities which deal with geography, and the "Magical, Mathematical Manor" contains math problems and puzzles for the children. No matter what the interest of the children is, these learning centers have something for everyone to enjoy. Whether it is optical illusion, learning about magicians, reading magical stories, or doing some magical science

experiments, the students are provided with an array of activities to choose from.

Prior to the students learning in the center, the Creative Arts class put together a song and dance which featured the college students singing about their individual centers. Singing along to "I'm a Believer" and "Do You Believe in Magic", the college students impressed and entertained the fourth graders and got them interested in the centers which they were about to be involved in. Many of the fourth graders sang along and clapped as the performance went on, and their smiles shined bright as the college students dressed as magicians sang and danced for them.

The school children then had about two hours to explore and learn from the centers created for them. They had the choice of doing whatever caught their eye and what interested them, whether it is art, math, science, history, words, or geography. As the students entered the room and looked around, many of them didn't know where



they wanted to go first! Some students explored a little of all the centers, while others stayed in one place and focused in a particular subject.

There were about fifty fourth graders in the room at one time but you wouldn't know it unless you counted. The students worked diligently and were practically silent as they explored and learned as much as they could from the magical activities provided for them.

As time ran out the groups had the chance to sit in a circle with the college students and share their feelings on the work that was done. By the response from the students, the Creative Arts class created activities that were not only fun, but educational as well. Most children said they were fun and they would not change anything, except for the fact that there was not

enough time for them to explore all the centers! The college students also had the chance to share what they learned from the experience.

The college students who put together the centers learned a great deal about teaching and designing a learning center that is age and developmentally appropriate. The class learned how to work together to create activities that students could explore on their own, enjoy, and most of all learn from. They also learned how to be facilitators in learning, not teaching the lesson directly but letting the students make their own connections and learn with limited guidance.

Lori Cyr, a Creative Arts student says, "All the time and effort to create a bright, interactive learning center was worth it. With each smile, comment, and action of every student, I could tell that the students were truly learning. I also discovered that learning can occur in any shape or form and that creativity plays a major role in the learning process."

It was a magical day for all involved and if you ask any Creative Arts student about the experience, they will tell you they learned just as much as the fourth graders! It was wonderful event for all who were involved and it truly showed that the magic of learning is within us all and is waiting to be released.



## The Armenian Genocide: Through My Eyes



A deportee walking in the Syrian desert in one of the death marches. Picture taken by Armin T. Wagner, a second lieutenant in the German army during the Genocide of 1915.

By Vatche Arabian

"Vatche, why do you care so much?" We live in a world founded by the fact that one person can make a difference. One person can make a change. I care so much because I want to make a change.

My latest documentary "The Armenian Genocide: A Look through Our Eyes," came about while I was thinking how much of an effect the event has on my life. In the past three years I have seen how much of an important role the Armenian culture plays in my life. For a while I didn't care very much about my heritage, but after visiting the country, a spark lit up in my head. I went from feeling limited emotion about the Armenian Genocide, to now seeing myself as somewhat of an activist, an advocate for recognition of the Armenian Genocide.

In my own research and studies of the event, I have come to a few conclusions. The Genocide was a horrible, ghastly event committed by the Ottoman Empire, and that I would not stand by and let anything like it happen again. History repeats itself, and through my own research, I saw very quickly, it has repeated itself many times, the Holocaust, Stalin's work camps, Cambodia, Somalia, Kosovo just to name a few. The Armenian Genocide has come to be known as the forgotten genocide. Forgetting the innocent lives of 1.5 million is a crime itself, a dishonor. Hitler's infamous quote burns bright, "Who remembers the extermination of the Armenians?" The simple act of forgetting an event that had only ended sixteen or so years before, convinced Hitler's followers that history will not judge, because their actions will be forgotten.

Atom Egoyan's latest film "Ararat," is a film that struck quite at home. His film, like my own,

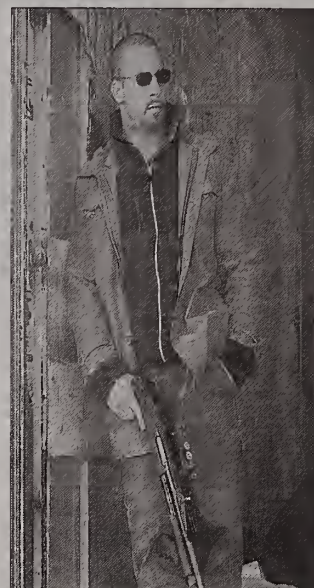
deals with the effects of the Armenian Genocide today, the effects of the massacres on a group of people working on a film about the Genocide. Within "Ararat," we see clearly that it still affects people's lives, no matter how they are connected.

If I were to say one thing about the Genocide, I'd say that not a day goes by where I do not think about it. As I was doing my research, I remember reading the words of the events outlined in books like Peter Balakian's "Black Dog of Fate," or literature provided by the Armenian Library and Museum of America. Each descriptive word is a clear picture of pain. Here we are eighty-eight years later and we haven't a clue why it happened. I don't think any amount of research I do will lead me to understand why complete and utter annihilation of one group by another is any resolution to any problem.

Two close friends and fellow film students from FSC served as my crew on the project. The phenomenal work of Bryan Maddern behind the camera and Gregg Swaitlowski on sound is visible. I was amazed at how much of a profound effect just working on the project had on the two of them. Many of my friends don't understand why I work so hard or care so much about the genocide. Bryan and Gregg joined the project as a favor. They not only left with some knowledge of the Genocide, but also with an understanding of why I did care. I will never forget Bryan's disbelief when he learned of the Turkish Government's denial of what happened in Eastern Anatolia during World War I. We were shooting a few still shots of pictures of Genocide when Bryan turned to me and said, "How can they deny this? What about these pictures?" I had no real answer for him, because I have no answer myself.

This year being the 88th anniversary, the Armenian Genocide is even more relevant. With war comes a thick curtain to hide such atrocities as Genocide. The Middle East being a location of such turmoil, there is no doubt in my mind that Genocide is crossing the minds of certain Governments or groups that make those countries. Quoting Harout Tutunjian, a participator in my documentary, the "United States is the protector of freedom" not just for our own citizens, but the protector of all. We are in the beginnings of the 21st century. The 20th century began with murder of innocents, it is my wish that the 21st century does not follow down the same path.

## Vin-dication in 'A Man Apart'



By Roger Roy

Sean Vetter (Vin Diesel) is a member of the DEA who is fighting an ongoing drug war on the California/Mexico border. He is one of the most successful at it because of he and his partner, Demetrius Hicks (Larenz Tate) were on the edge of growing up on the street and become thugs converted to cops. They

bust one of the major players and imprison him in the United States but a new man named Diablo. But when Vetter's wife is killed in a botched hit organized by Diablo, on Vetter, he seeks revenge against those responsible. That is the premise of "A Man Apart".

Coming from what people are calling the next action hero, Vin Diesel shows some depth that Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger have not shown just yet. The premise is basic, but the delivery was new and fresh, giving it some kind of deepness.

"A Man Apart" is not the usual man out for revenge type movie, it has some soul to it. We see Vetter become emotional over his loss, his regret, his grieving process. The reason why this story was made was not lost during the production of it. I would check it out on video or DVD, but the effort of this film should not be left unnoticed.

Just see a movie? Tell  
us what you think.  
Send your Film  
Reviews to us at

POINT@FSC.edu



# 'Basic' lacks storytelling fundamentals

By Roger Roy

"Basic" is the story of a marine sergeant (Samuel L. Jackson) who takes six of his special troops operatives on a training mission into the rain-soaked jungles of Columbia and only two come out alive. When the rescue mission arrives, they see one soldier killing another while carrying a wounded soldier on his shoulder. When the interrogation is to begin, the soldier refuses to talk to anyone unless they are another Ranger. The investigating officer



(Connie Nielsen, "Gladiator") protests her commanding officer (Timothy Daly, the television show

"Wings") of bringing in former Ranger and current DEA agent (John Travolta) to help investigate. The story is confusing as it can be, illustrating the ironic twist of its very own title. Being led by the two unmatched stories from the two survivors, the investigators are racing against time before the government feds take over the investigation. This game drags on for too long in the story. The premise is well tried, but not executed correctly.

The acting is mediocre in this military thriller. It is not poor by any

means, but it is not award worthy either. The direction, under the helm of John McTiernan ("Predator", "Die Hard") I went in expecting some decent action scenes, sadly it was limited due to the story's bewildered chaos.

"Basic" is a well attempted story that gets lost halfway though the puzzle structure of it all. It was nice to see Travolta and Jackson together again since "Pulp Fiction", but "Basic" is not the movie for them.

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## Dance Show keeps bringing them back

By Kristine McCaffrey

This year marked the 21st anniversary of the FSC dance show. This year's "Keep On Dancin" themed show was held on April 5 and 8 in Weston Auditorium. Students, faculty, staff and family all piled into Weston to see what this 21st year would bring. Like each year expectations were high and as usual the club did not disappoint. The show featured each dance club class doing what they do best, busting moves to their favorite types of dance.

The show's Masters of Ceremonies were Tullio Neeman and "Magic Ben" Reed. Reed, who is graduating this year, usually performs magic tricks each year throughout the show, but this year helped to tackle the role as co- M.C. "One of the biggest challenges I faced this year," said Reed, "was selecting a piece that could top last year's spectacle that left me standing alone on stage in my underwear." Reed is explaining a funny magic trick that has left Reed notorious all over campus. "When the opportunity to become the M.C. arose, I looked at it as a nice transition for 'Magic Ben,' almost like a retirement. I could relax a bit, but still have some time to play with the audience." Reed believes this year's show proved itself even better than past years. "This year stood out among others. You could tell that each and every act was carefully thought out. From the music selections, the choreography, costuming, everything was put together nicely. It's really exciting."

The show kicked off with a number done by the officers and teachers of the Dance Club. Next was the Jazz Funk class that heated things up with their rendition of Janet Jackson's dance groove "If," which was choreographed by Katie Hoey. The audience was captivated by their moves that Janet Jackson herself danced in the video.

Beginner Tap livened things up a bit with their dance to the Martha and the Vandella's oldies hit "Dancing in the Street." Amy Richards, a sophomore, was in both the beginner tap number as well as the classy Lyrical II class that danced to the song "Man in the Mirror" by Michael Jackson. "It's so great," stated Richards, to be apart of the dance club because putting on the show is the best part." The Lyrical II class taught by Cassandra Tzimas, who picked exquisite maroon costumes to go along with her beautiful choreography. The maroon, shimmer, two piece outfits were a nice sophisticated change to the usual sexy, skin showing outfits that are worn. Lyrical III also provided the audience with a lovely performance to Beth Hart's song "The L.A. Song." Choreographed by junior Carolyn Brown, the movements and costumes were a pleasure to watch. Lyrical I danced to the popular music from the Broadway show Rent under the direction of Yolanda Cruz.

Each year Sarone Krouch dazzles audiences with his classes. This year was no different. Krouch taught the classes of Hip Hop I and II as well as the dance "We

Are Electric" which featured himself, Jen Kelly, Laraine LeCorps, Jaime Buford and Rachel Leotta. Jen Kelly also taught Hip Hop II along with Krouch. Kelly, an excellent dancer, proved to be an excellent choreographer as well. Hip Hop II danced in true MTV style to songs by Janet Jackson and Jennifer Lopez. Their tight, chill dance moves had the audience members wanting to get up and dance with them.

There were several solos performed as well. Cassandra Tzimas dedicated her solo to her late grandmother and danced to the song "I'll Fly Away" sung by Nicole Kidman. Ruthy Emerly Rivera showed off her Latin dance moves with a high voltage performance. Rivera's Latin class later had the audience clapping to their swaying hips wearing very attractive peasant shirts. Justin Krumdick, despite ailing from a hurt foot, busted out a country like clog to a song by Shania Twain. Elizabeth Naples and FSC Dance Club president Katie Murphy entertained with a duet to "Children Don't Stop Dancing" by Creed. Stephanie Beaudoin gave a unique performance she titled "Mecca" towards the end of the show.

For the third year in a row the class Street Funk has been an audience favorite. Tisa McCarter Harris choreographed and taught, making this her second year, along with help from her assistant Chanea Charles. The costumes were sweat suits, every dancer in a different color. The choreography was hip, fun fast paced and full of energy. This year

the dance club definitely saved the best for last. Other dance classes that performed well were Modern, Jazz I and II, and III Intro to Funk, and Advanced Tap. The Irish Step class appeared for the second year in a row, with intricate footwork taught and choreographed by Courtney Carroll and Katie Murphy.

Whether this was a show one has attended every year here at FSC or it was their first time seeing the magic, everyone was buzzing with compliments about the club's hard work and performances. Becca Walsh, a sophomore audience member, stated that "This is the first dance show I have gone to. I was surprised at how well the dance show was put together and how much talent all the dancers in the club have." Reed, who enjoyed his last year being an active participant the show added that "The Dance Show is one of the few events on campus I look forward to each year on campus. As a performer myself, I enjoy the opportunity to get on stage and work with such a talented group of individuals."

The FSC Dance Club is a self funded club on campus and is the biggest club on campus. Now that it is of legal age, 21, the club has proved to be an important part of FSC Club history and tradition. The Point congratulates the Dance Club on a job well done and thanks them for continuing to put on a well seasoned show each year. We look forward to next year's performance. Keep on Dancin!



## Professor Profile Series Edition Four

## Joshua Spero

Political Science Department

By Tim Card

There are excited whispers going around the FSC campus today. Fitchburg State students are eager to go to class. They are beginning to realize that they can make a real difference in world events. These students are taking classes with Dr. Joshua Spero, who worked as a Strategic Planner at the Pentagon and came to Fitchburg State to train a new generation of public servants.

Dr. Spero grew up with a father who took John F. Kennedy's famous words to heart, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." His father was so inspired by these words, that he left his job in New York and went to Washington, to work for the State Department. Mr. Spero played an important role in the creation of a domestic Peace Corps program, now known as Americorps.

Joshua Spero was born in Washington DC in 1963 and grew up with his father's distinguished legacy of public service. He studied International Relations and Comparative Politics at Brandeis, the University of Michigan and the John Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. One of Dr. Spero's pivotal decisions in college was to take summer internships in Washington DC.

Joshua Spero's first job in Washington was to do research in the Library of Congress, in the late 1980's. Interestingly, he did research into Soviet Politics, the same thing he had studied for his undergraduate thesis. Eventually, Dr. Spero landed a job at the Pentagon through word of mouth and referrals. There, he worked on policy issues, until he moved into the Office of the Secretary of Defense, where he worked on European and Eurasian military and international security issues, particularly with policy makers and analysts from the former Soviet Union, Yugoslavia and the Eastern Bloc.

In the early 90's, Dr. Spero worked for the National Defense University and started his PHD program at John Hopkins. It was a hectic time, filled with commutes between work and classes, but he managed to persevere, until he obtained his doctorate degree in 2000, young family in tow. White House foreign policy seemed to be floundering, as the Balkans disintegrated into chaos and horror. Dr. Spero felt that he needed to return to policy work, knowing full well that it would sidetrack his doctorate degree for some time. He became an assistant to General Wesley Clark, whom you will recognize as an analyst for CNN. General Clark was the Director of Strategic Plans and Policies, in an office where Joshua Spero was one of

only a couple of civilians. The teams worked very long hours, sometimes even 15-18 hours per day! In times of war, like the Bosnia and Kosovo conflicts, these Crisis Action Teams (CATs) provided 24-hour coverage, alternating shifts, to stay abreast of the latest developments.

To provide perspective on today's rapidly changing world, Dr. Spero underlined that a document called, "Defense Planning Guidance" was leaked to the New York Times and Washington Post, in 1992. It created an immediate uproar, because its writers advocated an aggressive new first strike policy. "Defense Planning Guidance" was attributed to Lewis Libby and current Deputy Secretary of Defense, Paul Wolfowitz. The document was a blueprint for a "new world order," which would deter potential competitors from "even aspiring to a larger regional or global role." It also suggests that the U.S. should be ready to use pre-emptive strikes against countries with nuclear, biological or chemical weapons, "even in conflicts that otherwise do not directly engage U.S. interests." Dr. Spero remembers the controversy well, noting that the White House ordered it rewritten immediately, by then Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, our current Vice President.

Dr. Spero confirmed that according to U.S. intelligence, the incident where Iraq used chemical weapons against a Kurdish village also involved the Iranians, who used their own chemical weapons to take it over. He stressed that both Iraq and Iran obtained such chemical weapon patents and materials from the United States and Europe in the 1970's and 1980's. Dr. Spero warns that ethnic conflicts are one of the greatest challenges to world peace and stability, today. He believes that Americans must understand not only the horrors of war, but also America's long-term post war commitments, which are necessary to quell the urge to go to war so quickly, again.

While working in the Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Dr. Spero spent time training with the military and provided guidance to the command staffs in NATO and globally. This office served as a link between the military and government, ensuring that the military got the resources, information and policy guidance that they needed to accomplish their missions. Many recommendations from his office became official policy. Unfortunately, the two sides didn't always agree on military requirements. Dr. Spero finds it hard to watch the war in Iraq now, because he understands what his former colleagues must be going through, as we often witness schisms between civilian defense policy makers and military plan-

ners.

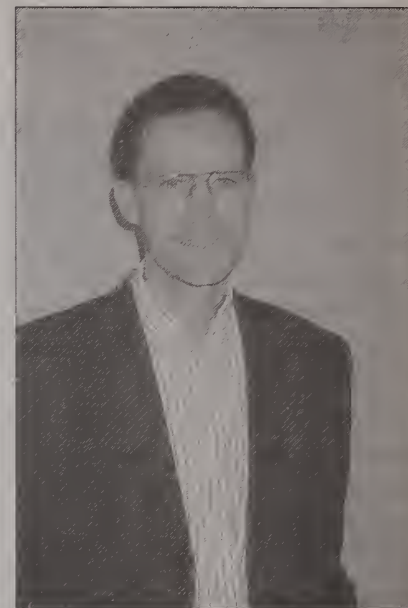
In 2000, Joshua Spero decided to leave the world of policy making to train the next generation of public servants. After teaching at Dartmouth and Merrimack, both private colleges, he decided to come to Fitchburg State. One of the things he loves about Fitchburg State is that so many first generation college students are coming here, and a professor has the unique opportunity to help them fulfill their potential. Dr. Spero likes to tell students, "Don't sell yourself short - you know more than you think." He explains that an international career is a real possibility and that students here have a real opportunity to go out and enjoy a career in public service to help their country, just as he did. Joshua Spero was "an essential cog in the national security machine," and students at Fitchburg State can have a similar impact, if they open up their minds to becoming citizens who tackle world challenges.

Another reason Dr. Spero likes Fitchburg State, is that students here are involved in so many activities. Quite a few of our students work full time, while simultaneously taking a full course load. They are very pragmatic and earn every opportunity they get. He likes how our students rise to the occasion and finds it rewarding to help them plan their careers.

"State Colleges are special, because they help the students who could not otherwise afford higher education. They serve as a bridge between the state government and the people," said Spero.

Joshua Spero has insightful perspectives on recent and current world events. According to Dr. Spero, one of the goals of Osama Bin Laden's global Al Qaeda network is to destabilize the governments of powerful Muslim countries. Another goal is to draw America into conflicts with Islam, as hostile enemies. Part of the irony of this is that the US helped Muslims from the 1980's to the present day, including military aid in the Balkan conflicts, Somalia, the first Gulf War and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Now, however, Al Qaeda's plans seem to be bearing fruit. In a moment of frustration, the President of Egypt recently said that the War in Iraq will spawn a hundred Bin Ladens. Another aspect of Al Qaeda's recruitment is that the organization promises to care for widows and orphans and to feed, house and educate their children. They also point out the humiliation Muslim people suffer and offer them an exalted vision of a martyr's reward in Paradise.

The key to winning the War on Terror will be to de-legitimize the message of terrorist organizations, and not just by military means, said Spero. Unfortunately,



some people are calling discussions of the roots of terrorism "un-American," making it less likely that people will be able to find real solutions. Dr. Spero suggests that the key to de-legitimizing terrorism may be much greater non-military international intervention. He emphasizes that we need to work hard to build bridges between the U.S. and other countries.

Joshua Spero's neighborhood donates groceries to needy families every Wednesday evening. Recently, the number of families coming for assistance has tripled. Dr. Spero feels that there needs to be a bridge between the Federal Government and the constant citizen volunteerism, something beyond volunteerism alone. New programs, such as the Citizen Corps and the Democracy Corps are not getting the funding they need to make a difference. Before the economic surge of the 1990's, there was bipartisan support for community building and forging stronger bonds with other countries. Now, however, there seems to be a movement in the opposite direction, exacerbating social problems in America and abroad. Dr. Spero feels that we really need another leader like John F. Kennedy, who can inspire the American people to take part in public service, in much the same way that occurred in the early to mid 1980's.

Students at Fitchburg State have expressed great enthusiasm for Dr. Spero's classes and realistic, challenging methods. When students take on the roles of policy makers, it helps to prepare them for careers in the private sector, government and non-profit sectors. Dr. Spero's innovative and realistic classroom methods make students excited about going to his classes.



## Style with Holly Johnson

Summer is around the corner and now is the time to start interviewing for summer jobs. Whether it is at your home-town grocery store or an air conditioned mall job, your interview is very important.

Research shows that we as a society associate beauty with characteristics and personality. First impressions do matter! Just because you are going to interview with the supermarket doesn't mean you should wear a tee shirt and jeans. Look nice! Shock them!

Quick and easy outfits:

Ladies: A white or pastel long-sleeved or three quarter length button down shirt. (GAP \$34.50 or for a cheaper version try Target) Depending on the interview; formal: black skirt (GAP \$42.50) and nylons if office work. Informal: Khakis.

Gentlemen: A white or light blue long-sleeved oxford button down shirt. (Landsend.com now on sale 2 for \$35,

Lands end is now available at Sears!) Formal: black dress pants and a contemporary tie. (Landsend.com \$24.50) Informal: Khakis (GAP \$39.50)

The Do's and Don'ts

Do clean up: Make sure your hair is not unkempt. Nails should be neat and trimmed. Iron your clothes. (Quick tip: If you don't have time to iron, place the clothes on hangers and bring them into the bathroom while you shower. The steam should get some of the wrinkles out.

Don't wear offensive cologne or perfume. If you must wear a scent choose a light fragrance.

Do have good posture. Posture is a wonderful and free way to sharpen your image. Keep your shoulders back not hunched. Sit with your back on the chair to help you maintain your presence. Stand tall. With height comes confidence and respect.

Do maintain eye contact with the inter-

viewer. The eyes are the windows to the soul!

Don't smother your face with make-up. Apply a bit of foundation to

even out skin tone. (Mix a dab into your moisturizer) Apply a light brown eye shadow. Opt for brown eyeliner instead of black. Black mascara is fine. Wear a lip color that complements your skin tone. (No red!)

Do wear a tie. Yes a tie. Ties can be expensive. If you don't have the money for an expensive one try to find a conservative pattern and head to the local thrift store.

Do get a hair cut gentlemen.

Remember, you are the thing being inter-



*As students we want to wear fashionable, comfortable and affordable clothing and accessories. No longer will you have to buy those expensive magazines because here in The Point we will be including a new column entitled "style" written by Holly Johnson. Included in the column will be weekly advice on fashion, trendy places to hangout and dine, interesting ways to decorate your living space and entertain your guests.*

viewed not your clothes. You want the interviewer to forget what you are wearing within the first few minutes. If you are nervous, remember that the interviewer wants to hire you. They are looking for people to hire. Answer their questions without hesitation and smile. Good luck on your interview!

## English Club elects 2003-04 officers

By Eileen Hamm

On Wed., April 2, the English Club held elections to vote for a new slate of officers for 2003-2004. These newly elected officers will be inducted into office on Wednesday, April 16th at 5:30 p.m. just prior to the Pizza Panel to be held that evening. Congratulations are extended to the following:

PRESIDENT: Melissa Ganley

VICE-PRESIDENT: Natalie Wisenbaker

SECRETARY: Gillian Nolan

TREASURER: Graham Tingley

It has been a busy couple of semesters for the English Club. Inactive for a few years, it came back to life in 2002-2003 under the leadership of Eileen Hamm and her slate of officers that included Jaymie Rimes, Vice-President, Megan Concannon, Secretary, and Mark Whittemore, Treasurer.

With no money in their fund because a budget was not submitted the previous year, the club has nonetheless managed to enjoy a busy fun-filled series of events that began with Eileen's brainchild series: "Meet The Author." In time for Halloween, she contacted a former alumni of FSC who graciously accepted the invitation of the English Club to appear at a book-signing event at no charge. The following week, John Bisol returned again to FSC and joined two other authors (the English Department's own Professor Arnold Gordenstein and the Point Editor, Andy Levine) for an informative evening that included sharing information with those in attendance about their research methods, the actual writing process, and the various publishing routes these authors explored. All three authors shared excerpts from their books that evening and all who attended

were impressed with their works.

The "Meet The Author" series continued this Spring Semester and thanks to generous assistance from the English Department and the Student Activities Office, Eileen was able to bring in Steve Burt, a well-known New England storyteller and award winning author. Dr. Thomas Murray's class (Children's Literature) was able to attend this evening seminar which was a great success. In the future, the English Club hopes to attract other well-known alumni authors like R. A. Salvatore to appear on campus.

The first Poetry Reading Night drew students from across the majors who shared their written works on November 13th in the Underground Pub. The second event held on December 4th attracted more students even though the event fell right before finals. The Poetry Reading Nights continued in the Spring with new faces and new poets. At the second poetry evening on March 5th, The English club was joined by BSU for a very successful Poetry Reading Night when Eileen was able to book a special guest appearance by Regie Gibson (a spoken word artist) and Philip Pemberton (a musician).

The appreciative audience remained until after 10:30 p.m. and all present agreed that they did not want the evening to end. This Poetry Reading Night also saw the appearance of a number of new authors who shared their poetry, prose, dialogues and short stories. The final Poetry Reading Night took place on April 9th and this popular event will resume again in the Fall of 2003.

The English Club's biggest venture to date is the upcoming FSC Spring Star Search Talent Show which will be held on April 22, 23, and 24 at Percival. Signups

for this major event are currently underway at the Information Booth in the Hammond Building. This talent show is open to everyone on campus including faculty, staff and students. This event is just one of the many offerings hosted by the English Club that strives to make programs available for everyone in the FSC community.

The English Club also actively supports and participates in Open House events sponsored by the FSC Admissions Office. Prospective students who come to FSC have the opportunity to meet club members and learn about the activities and events that are part of the English Club. Members of the English Club thoroughly enjoy these events that allow them to be creative. At the Open House held in October, the English Club won an award for best table with its Renaissance theme. Three members of the club (Meg, Sarah, and Stephanie) dressed in period costumes, quoted sonnets, and handed out feather "quill" pencils.

At the Open House held in November two members of the club (Meg and Sarah) adopted a 60's theme that included period dress and handing out "flowers" to prospective students and their parents. This reaching out to new students through creativeness was a big hit with parents and faculty members as well.

In addition, the English Club has participated in numerous campus events including "Rock The Block," "Freshman Move-In Mania," and "Downtown Fitchburg's Holly Days."

This semester the English Club is excited to have the opportunity to travel to Concord, New Hampshire on April 25th and 26th to attend an historic, first-ever meeting of the nation's poets laureate. Poets laureate from all over the country

will be participating in a two-day event that promises to be very exciting. If you are interested in joining the group for this trip or would like more information about this event, please contact Eileen Hamm by calling campus extension 6367.

In the future, the English Club hopes to sponsor such field trips as a trip to a theatre production in Boston or perhaps even NYC if funding allows. The club is also looking at providing workshops and other events that would be of interest to those who are interested in careers in the field of English.

The overall goal of the English Club is to actively participate in and support activities for all students at FSC. The programs that are sponsored by the English Club are constructed to appeal to students across the majors. One of its successes is the Poetry Reading Nights. This event allows students to showcase their writing and attracts students from all the majors. The Spring Star Search Talent Show is another opportunity for not only students, but also faculty and staff alike to participate, to compete and to just enjoy the talents of the many individuals here on campus.

The English Club is open to all students at FSC and English majors are strongly encouraged to participate in the club and support the events hosted by the club. If you are interested in joining the English Club, have suggestions for programs you would like to see, or have questions about any of the planned events, please feel free to contact any of the newly elected officers through the campus mail system.



# Watch, grow and learn

By Christopher Dodge

On Friday, April 4, I had the opportunity to experience a learning event like no other. All of the participants, including myself, left the event with a new outlook on life and how we as humans grow and develop. The program was called Parent-N-Me and is put together by Dr. Diana Suskind, an Education professor at FSC. It takes place at Fitchburg Fire Station every Friday morning, and it is a program for parents and their babies. The program relies in the RIE (Resources for Infant Educarers) method of teaching, which lets children explore their space openly and play however they see fit. The children play and interact with each other while the parents observe.

This class opened my eyes to a new style of parenting. When I think of parents and their young I often think of parents who help their children up when they fall, and holding them when they cry. In this class, parents are encouraged to make themselves available to their children when they are hurt, but try as much as possible to let their children stand back up on their own. This technique should not be confused with "tough love" though. The RIE method encourages observation of children and their behaviors, but it does not leave them alone and helpless when they are in need of a parents affection. The parents sit and make themselves available to their children, but the goal is for children to learn from their experiences and be more confident and self-reliant.

This technique allows children to develop at their own pace and parents will learn much more about their children and their personalities. So often we hear parents comparing when their children reached milestones, such as taking a first step or speaking their first word. This class teaches that there is no right age for a milestone, we all develop at different rates and there is no set age at when to do something. If you let a child explore their surroundings freely, they will do these things when it is right for them, not their parents.

As the parents entered the room they took off their coats and entered the area. Most of the children have been coming to the class previously, so they immediately went to the play area and began exploring and playing. Some of the children worked on their own, while others played with each other and were even speaking to each other in their own child-like gibberish. There were also some infants participating in the class. The mothers laid their babies down next to each other and let them experience their surroundings. There were two at the class and it was amazing to watch how they interacted with each other. They immediately sensed each other's presence and made instant eye contact. They watched each other and even held hands! I was amazed at how these babies acted and related to one another.

In the big area the older children were still playing while the parents observed them and their behaviors. It was great to see a child find a noisy toy, play with it, then show it to another child to use. The one girl, Kaitlyn, went to the toy sink and began pretending to wash dishes and put them away on the shelves! One of the boys, Brandon, grabbed a book and pretended to read it while sitting in a chair. With the parents quiet and watching attentively you could see the response of the children as they also played quietly and focused on their task. One of the mothers was amazed at how well her son plays at their local play-group because of the class. She said she has been getting many compliments from other mothers about how her son, Rocky, plays so independently and is very self-reliant. The strides made in the class were already showing results and the looks on the mothers faces showed how pleased they were with this method.

Next came snack time, where the children had the opportunity to sit at a table and eat a banana. Once the children heard the word "snack" they ran to sit in the chairs and put on their bibs. They already knew the routine, as they showed when they took a towel and



Getting ready for snacktime, these babies know just what to do!

wiped their hands off before eating. They helped peel the banana, and then ate it piece by piece. When the activity was over the children helped clean up by wiping the table and putting away the dishes. The children were able to pour their own water, which shocked me because they were so independent at that age and they knew the routines by heart.

The day did not run smoothly all morning long though, as there were some struggles along the way. While the children played, some of them got mad at other children and some of them did end up crying. It was interesting to watch the parents during this because you could see them wanting to get up and help their child. They were encouraged to not act, but observe and make themselves available to the child if they needed it. One of the children began to cry after hitting his foot and I could sense the mother wanted to run over and kiss it better. She did restrain though and we all got to see how her child dealt with it, stood up, and began to play again. We all watched and were happy for the child and the mother. Dr. Suskind explained to me that such an experience will go on with them for life. Helping a child up will not help them in the long run, but letting them fall and get back on their own feet is much more beneficial. We all have times when we fall, even as adults, and it is important to know how to get up on our own.

This class is amazing and is something worth attending, even just once to see what it is like. I not only learned from this from a child development standpoint, but I also learned from it from a future parent standpoint. It is instinctive to want to help our children and teach them what we think they should know. While observing, parents exercise a great amount of thought and detail interpreting their child's behavior. It is all about creating meaningful experiences for the children, as well as the parents. These experiences will stay with children and carry on with them into their later life as long as we make it a point to let them mature at their own pace. It is not about telling a child what they can and cannot do, but letting them go and explore what makes them happy. This in return will make the learning process so much more beneficial to them as children and later on as adults.

## Classifieds Classifieds Classifieds Classifieds

### Fraternities \* Sororities \* Clubs \* Student Groups

Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 this semester with a proven CampusFundraiser 3 hour fundraising event. **Our programs make fundraising easy with no risks.** Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get with the program! It works. Contact CampusFundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit [www.campusfundraiser.com](http://www.campusfundraiser.com).

### The Class of 2006 Presents Eminem in M&M

Come see  
"8 Mile" starring Eminem  
Hammond Center Lounge  
Monday April 28th, 7:30 p.m.  
FREE refreshments



# Pitcher gets FSC past Brandeis

continued from Page 12

after Sawyer hit a double to center field. Chamberlain went up to score and the Falcons took the early lead. Freda flied out to the center field. Dusombre reached second base and Sawyer advanced to third. Dusombre stole second and Sawyer scored on the play. Taking the lead by two, the falcons were ready for the next innings. Later in the inning, Bourgault scored as well as Dusombre. The inning ended with four runs, one hit, and four errors were made by Brandeis. Four runs up, Brandeis was hesitant to take the field.

Brandeis started with Hanks, Bergel, Albert, Leber, Levine, Ullman, Smith, Watterworth, Kidd, and Glucksman. Hanks pitched five innings for Brandeis. Hanks singled through the left side and Bergel was out at the first pitch. Hanks advanced to second and Albert flied out to center field. Leber also hit a single to the left side of the field. Hanks scored and

Levine grounded out. It was a quick inning for the falcons, and they only let up one run and no errors.

Falcons did not have a long inning. Bissonnette struck out and Chamberlain flied out to center field. No runs, hits, or errors. Brandeis's Ullman grounded out to the short stop and smith grounded out to third base. No runs were scored and FSC was still up by three. Third inning was scoreless for the Falcons. Freda lined out to center field and Dusombre doubled to left center. Dion grounded out to second base.

Hanks scored for Brandeis, bringing the falcon lead only up by two. Leber also scored. This would be all the scoring that Brandeis did for the game. Levine singled out. Falcons did not score in the top of the fourth inning. Gillioti walked to first and advanced to second and third but did not make it home. Sawyer

grounded out as did Chamberlain. At the bottom of the fourth, Watterworth walked and Kidd reached on a fielder's choice. Hanks grounded into the short stop. Top of the fifth came all too soon. Dusombre walked and Bourgault doubled. Dusombre scored and Dion singled out through left field. Souza had a fly ball to the center-field. Falcons took the lead five to three at this point in the game. The next two innings were battled out by Jennifer Neslusan, the pitcher for the falcons, and Smith the pitcher for Brandeis.

Bergel struck out looking and Albert out at first pitch to second base. Leber bunted and grounded out to the short stop. No hits, runs, or errors were made by either team. The Falcons went on to win five to three.

To catch more softball action, swing by Elliot Field on Wednesday April 23, 2003 at five o'clock against Elms College.

## FSC Invitational Brings best to the Burg

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fourth in the triple jump and sixth overall in the 100 meter dash.

Several other men scored points for the Falcons. Senior Ed Lynch finished 4th in the hammer throw, Andy LeBlanc jumped into the sixth position in the long jump, and the men's 4x400 relay team, Chris Keegan, David Claffey, Keith Kantor and Germain, capped off the event with a second place finish.

For the full results of the meet, check the FSC athletics website at [www.fsc.edu/athletics/](http://www.fsc.edu/athletics/).



Jen Kurtinitis lands in the sand pit during the triple jump event during the Fitchburg State Invitational Meet at Elliot Field. While she only placed eighth in the event, she led FSC athletes with 18 points.

### FSC Athletes of the Week

**Alyssa Freda, Sophomore OF** - 5 for 13 last week with a pair of doubles, a home run and five RBIs.

**Steve O'Brien, Senior 2B** - Scored five runs in Falcon's win over 2002 ECAC champion Babson.

**Jen Kurtinitis, Junior Track** - Finished third in the Hammer Throw and Shot Put and helped the women's 4X100 relay to a third place finish, scoring 18 points for FSC.

### 3-3 Tournament Champions

Blue Division - Dizzy Llamas  
Red Division - Young Guns  
Green Division - 4 in the Hood  
White Division - Muckers

### All-Division Intramural Basketball

#### A Division

Isaih Tucker  
Erik Duluc  
Manny DeBarros  
John Guy  
Patrick Francois

#### B Division

James Pimenta  
Brian Murphy  
John Holm  
Chris Ramsdell  
Seth Walker

Any Students planning or running in the Boston Marathon, please contact us at Point Sports by calling ext. 6251 or emailing us at [PointSports@hotmail.com](mailto:PointSports@hotmail.com). Let us know what number you will be wearing, or if your going bandit, what you will be wearing. We will have a photographer on course.



# Point SPORTS

Fitchburg State College Athletics

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## Bissonnette's arm hurls a win Fitchburg's way

By Robin L. Kanter

On April 13, 2003, FSC softball took the field against Brandeis College. FSC went on to win five to three. With roughly 50 people in the stands, it was bound to be an interesting game. Pitching for the Falcons was Kristin Bissonnette. She pitched five innings and allowed only

three hits. The Falcons all star lineup was made up of Chamberlain, Sawyer, Freda, Dusombre, Bourgault, Dion, Souza, Gillotti, and O'Connor.

The first inning Chamberlain made it to first base after an error by the Brandeis short stop. She later advanced to second

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## Falcon sluggers bat down Becker College

### Tops team behind baserunners and bullpen

By Orlando Claffey

After splitting a double header with Massachusetts Maritime over a week ago, The Fitchburg State baseball team had to shake off the rust to take on Becker College April 13.

Since returning from spring training in Florida, the Falcons have gone 3-4 behind the bats of Brian Milleisen, Tim Sullivan and the pitching of Joe Allen. With a eight day layoff, the birds hoped that lowly Becker, with its 4-10 record, could get them back on the right

track.

Unfortunately, the home team struck first, loading the bases up in the bottom of the first. Nick Barnes, the Falcon's starting pitcher, forced the Becker hitter to ground out to the Shortstop and end the inning.

Fitchburg struck back from the threat in the next frame, as first baseman Mike Savastano lined a triple into centerfield, scoring Sullivan and designated hitter Tim Raymond. Savastano later scored on a sacrifice fly, giving the Falcons a three run lead.

After a rough first inning, Barnes calmed down and pitched three more scoreless innings while the offense racked up seven runs.

In the bottom of the fifth, Becker finally broke out of its shell, scoring two runs on four hits. The Falcons matched them in the top of the sixth though, scoring a pair of their own on a two run single by Milleisen.

With a 9-2 lead, the Falcons looked to be on cruise control, until the Becker offense put together four consecutive hits on Barnes, knock-

ing him out of the game. Relief pitcher Nick Billings came in from the bullpen to put out the fire, but only after Becker scored four runs.

The Fitchburg bullpen took certain control of the game, giving up only two hits in 3.2 innings and securing a 16-7 win for the Falcons.

The green birds next home game is April 29, when they host Westfield State in a double header starting at noon. Westfield finished last season only two wins ahead of Fitchburg in the MASCAC, making this pair critical for the Falcons.

## Fitchburg Invitational pits the Falcons against top runners

By Orlando Claffey

The day started out a muddy, miserable mess, but around 1 p.m. the skies cleared and the runners ran at the Fitchburg Invitational Track Meet at Elliot Field April 12.

Nine teams from around the state came to the event, including the meet winner Holy Cross.

The FSC Women's team, led by sensational field athletes, finish fourth overall, while the men placed sixth. Even with the Fitchburg team undermanned, several athletes shined during the competition.

Junior Jen Kurtinitis and Andrea Keith led all division III athletes in the hammer throw, finishing third and fifth respectively. Kurtinitis also finished third in the shot put and eighth in the triple jump. Keith placed fifth in the shot put and seventh in the discus.

Other standout women included Courtney Kelly, who finished second in the 100 meter dash, Dominique Smallwood, who was third in the triple jump, Crystal Andy threw her discus to a sixth place spot and Megan Hamel, who finished fourth in the shot put.

The Men were led by their distance runners, with Matt Germain placing second in the 500 meter race and third in the 1500 meter race. Teammate Ryan Miller finished one spot behind in the 5000 meter race.

Senior Craig Martin showed his talent on both sides of the field, placing

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**Falcon Senior Andy Leblanc moves past Sergihino Rene during the high-speed 100 meter dash at the Fitchburg Invitational Meet at Elliot Field. LeBlanc ended up finishing ninth overall out of 31 runners with a time of 12.06.**



Photo by Orlando Claffey, Point Sports